

REMARKS

Summary of Final Office Action

Claims 1-4, 14-17, and 27-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,756,951 to *Ishizuka et al.*

Claims 5-13 and 18-26 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but are indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Summary of Amendment

Applicants have amended claims 1, 9, 13, 14, 22, and 26. No new matter has been introduced.

Applicants have canceled claims 5, 15, 18, 27, and 28, without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, claims 1-4, 6-14, 16, 17, and 19-26 are presently pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating allowable subject matter in claims 5-13 and 18-26. Independent claim 1 has been rewritten to incorporate the features of claim 5. Claims 9, 13, 22, and 26 have been rewritten in independent form. Claim 14 has been amended to incorporate the features of claims 15 and 18. Accordingly, Applicants submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments to place the application in clear condition for allowance or, in the alternative, in better form for appeal.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.R.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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